

from this commonsense legal reform. The small investor is the one deprived of timely information by gun-shy managers, who see capital allocated to R&D diverted to pay legal bills and settlements, and who are robbed of the time and talent of managers distracted by lawsuits.

Commonsense legal reform, that we promised in the Contract With America, and we are delivering with H.R. 10, is desperately needed to unshackle companies and investors from these abusive lawsuits.

VYING FOR DOLLARS—EDUCATION AND CORRECTIONS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 1995

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, this Nation has a serious problem with crime and the people of this country are demanding something be done. Unfortunately, the current debate about how to address this problem appears to be stalled at the theory that more prisons will reduce crime. But the fact of the matter is building more costly prisons is a short-term fix to a long-term problem that may very well be draining the resources from the real solution.

The following article that I am inserting into the RECORD is a thought-provoking interview with Frank Wood, Minnesota's commissioner of corrections, a life-long friend and acquaintance. Prior to his role as commissioner, Frank Wood served for a decade as a prison warden and has had a long positive career in Minnesota corrections. I encourage my colleagues to take heed of the message Commissioner Wood relates in this important interview.

VYING FOR DOLLARS—EDUCATION AND CORRECTIONS

"They are closing schools in California to free up money to build more prisons. And it's not an unusual phenomenon. Education and Corrections are being pitted against each other in almost every state in the union," says Frank Wood, Minnesota's outspoken Commissioner of Corrections.

Wood is not about to suggest that prisons can or should be abolished. Nor is he likely to suggest that Minnesota's \$143 million prison budget is unnecessary.

"Now and for the foreseeable future we will need prisons for violent offenders. However," he continues, "having said that, Minnesota is among the toughest states in the country in terms of sentences, we don't need many more felony enhancements [ed note: corrections jargon for tougher felony sentences]."

What we do need, Wood says, is a Corrections budget that must increase substantially for several years, "just to cover the invoices for the laws—and sentences—we've already passed."

And beyond that?

"We have proposed to spend 30 billion dollars in the national crime bill—and it's highly unlikely that those funds designated for reactions after the fact to crime will lower the crime rate," Wood says.

What the crime bill will do, Wood suggests, is help Americans feel safe in the face of what they perceive as an increasingly violent society with a growing number of out-of-control youth.

Is Wood pleased? Evidently not. "As we attempt to toughen Minnesota's sentencing guidelines beyond their current level, what we are doing is investing in reaction. Attacking the problems of crime by building more prisons is like attacking the AIDS problem by building more hospitals.

"We do need prisons. But we must look at how to conserve our state's resources and focus on and invest in our kids."

"We must," Wood says, "look at kids with learning disabilities and kids with poor anger and impulse control. They can be helped before they end up in correctional facilities.

"We must look at how we can help kids who are growing up with abusive parents and kids who are parenting kids.

"We need to look at parent education—maybe even mandatory training for parents. We need to teach parents and kids non-violent conflict resolution skills.

"We've got to remember that even if some want to—you can't throw kids away. They won't disappear. And the costs of dealing with them won't either. They'll take your money when they occupy a cell."

Wood insists that it's far less expensive to invest in tutors, parent education, even one-to-one help for kids. He's adamant that society will save money—and may just reclaim lives—if it will invest in more front-end services and fewer correctional facilities.

"We invest in recycling plastic, glass and paper—we should invest in preserving our most valuable resource, our kids," says Wood.

TRIBUTE TO HOPE MONTGOMERY SCOTT

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 1995

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a preeminent symbol of Philadelphia's main line society. The recent passing of Hope Montgomery Scott at age 90, earlier this week marks the end of an era. As the darling of high society, Mrs. Scott was both an honored dairy farmer and for the last 30 years the principal organizer for the nationally known Devon Horse Show and Country Fair.

Scott, best known as the high society girl was the inspiration for the making of "The Philadelphia Story," written in 1939 by playwright Philip Barry, a college classmate of Mrs. Scott's husband, Edgar, at Harvard Drama School. The play, was then made into a 1940 movie starring local Bryn Mawr College graduate actress Katherine Hepburn. In 1956, after great demand, "The Philadelphia Story" was remade into a musical called "High Society," starring Philadelphia native Grace Kelly.

Mrs. Scott had a dairy farm, a trade she learned from her father while growing up. Her dairy farm was the top producing Ayrshire herd in the Nation. In 1990 the farm received an award for an average annual output of 20,000 pounds of milk per cow.

Mrs. Scott married an heir to the Pennsylvania Railroad fortune, threw the best parties, and became the finest American horsewoman

of her day. Mrs. Scott began riding at the age of 4 and won many awards at the Devon Horse Show.

Today, Mrs. Scott's contributions to the community can be best attributed to her role as chairwoman and executive director of the Devon Horse Show and Country Fair, Inc., where last year alone proceeds of over \$400,000 benefited Bryn Mawr Hospital.

But Mrs. Scott's charity work was not limited to the Devon Horse Show. Earlier this year, Mrs. Scott coordinated a 90th birthday bash for herself which alone raised another \$100,000 for Bryn Mawr Hospital, her favorite charity.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to the late Hope Montgomery Scott. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and admirers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 1995

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, I was unavoidably detained and regrettably missed three procedural votes. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 17, a motion to table the appeal of the Speaker's ruling; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 18, a motion to strike the words of Representative Meek of Florida; and "nay" on rollcall vote No. 19, a motion to adjourn the U.S. House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO KEN NASH

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 1995

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of Sgt. Kenneth J. Nash.

Sergeant Nash is retiring after 27½ years of diligent service in the Hazel Park Police Department. His career has been marked by numerous commendations and citations including the prestigious "Citation for Professional Excellence" awarded to him by the Michigan State Police.

Sergeant Nash's distinguished record of service is not limited only to the Hazel Park Police Department. He has been active in the Boy Scouts serving as Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, and district commissioner. His outstanding service to the community earned him the "Citizen of the Month" honor, which was awarded to him by the Hazel Park City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain his retirement will not be so much the ending of his career, but rather the beginning of new endeavors.

I am privileged to join Kenneth Nash's friends and colleagues in thanking him for his years of distinguished service and wish him a rewarding retirement.